The Repeater

The W6VVR Newsletter

The Newsletter for April 2024

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THE VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB WELCOMES YOU

The Vaca Valley Radio Club has proudly served the Northern Solano County Area since 1988. We pride ourselves in providing a friendly place for radio amateurs to meet and improve their operating skills.

We participate in public service events throughout the year and are always ready to assist with communications during times of emergency.

Browse our website for more information about our club. If you have any questions, please e-mail us at w6vvr@w6vvr.net or call 707-448-5665 for assistance.

The Repeater is Published by the Vaca Valley Radio Club, PO Box 143, Elmira, CA 95625- 0143.

An ARRL Affiliated Club. Founded 1987, Chartered 1988.

General Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM See the directions on the last several pages.

Meetings Are Wheelchair Accessible

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A Message from The Editors of The Repeater

It is April! Time to start thinking about Field Day and Natural Disasters.

That's right! We should always be ready and trained, but for those who are not, now is a good month to start thinking about it. We are always able to assist the public, the emergency responders, and whatever agency ask us to assist them.

But we can not do that if we are not properly trained and experienced.

April is a great month for doing that training! No holidays to interfere with training, warmer weather to work with, and the chance to learn how to be ready for a crisis.

We should be able to practice and be ready for any emergency.

No! I am not saying run out and start buying things you can't afford or wont need. But learn about the Incident Command System and the National Preparedness system run by F.E.M.A. and the Department of Homeland Security.

Learn how you can be ready for the next emergency to assist your friends and neighbors in a crisis that is unexpected.

This month we are looking at the Incident Command System and how to work within it.

There may be a time when you are involved and will need to know who to talk to, who is in charge, and where you can direct people for answers or assistance.

The Incident Command System encompasses so much more than just the local authorities. It also can involve state agencies, federal agencies, the community as a whole, right down to individuals.

This month lets take our first steps into the first module of the Incident Command System - ICS-100

73

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I came across this article on a fellow Amateur radio blog page:

https://www.kb6nu.com/

I felt it was important enough to share with everyone.
It should concern almost all of us in the club.

FCC to reinstate Morse Code test

APRIL 1, 2024 BY DAN KB6NU

This just in…

Washington, D.C. – April 1, 2024 – Today, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission or FCC) approved Report and Order 24-987af which reinstates the Morse Code test for General Class and Amateur Extra Class licensees.

"It was a big mistake eliminating the Morse Code test," admits Dotty Dasher, the FCC's director of examinations. "We now realize that being able to send and receive Morse Code is an essential skill for radio amateurs. As they say, it really does get through when other modes can't."

Not only will new applicants have to take the test, but General Class licensees who have never passed a code test will have one year to pass a 5-wpm code test. Similarly, Amateur Extra class licensees that never passed a code test will have one year to pass a 13-wpm test. Those amateurs that fail to pass the test will face revocation of their operating privileges. Materials for administering the examinations will be distributed to Volunteer Examiner Coordinators by the end of April, so that they can begin the testing on May 15, 2024.

Continued on the next page.

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“This isn’t going to be one of those silly multiple-choice type tests,” noted Dasher. “We’re going to be sending five-character random code groups, just like we did in the old days.

And, applicants will have to prove that they can send, too, using a poorly adjusted straight key.”

Technician Class licensees will not be required to take a Morse Code test, nor will a test be required for new applicants. “We discussed it,” said Dasher, “but decided that since most Techs can’t even figure out how to program their HTs, requiring them to learn Morse Code seemed like cruel and unusual punishment.”

When asked what other actions we might see from the FCC, Dasher hinted that in the future applicants taking the written exam may be required to draw circuit diagrams, such as Colpitts oscillators and diode ring mixers, once again.

“We’re beginning to think that if an applicant passes an amateur radio license exam it should mean that he or she actually knows something,” she said.

“From the view of the FCC right now, Amateur Radio is beginning to look like the CB Radio of the 1970’s.” Dasher went on to state: “I would be afraid to have to retest all the amateur radio operators that have been licensed in the last 15 years. But the FCC is still discussing that possibility.”

For further information, contact James X. Shorts, Assistant Liaison to the Deputy Chief of Public Relations for the FCC at (202) 555-1212 or jim.shorts@fcc.gov.

For more news and information about the FCC, please visit www.fcc.gov.

Continued on the next page.

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The original post can be found at

https://www.kb6nu.com/fcc-to-reinstate-morse-code-test/

And by the way --- APRIL FOOLS!!

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A Message from The President

Unfortunately, as of the publishing deadline, I did not receive any message from the President Servando Miramontes, K6SRV

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A message from the Vice President

Unfortunately, as of the publishing deadline, I did not receive any message from the Vice President Dan Martin N6ETR

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A message from the Treasurer

A little different this month besides the high level financial notes, I have also included more detailed information

This chart is our basic club balances:

VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB NOTES 2024				
	PROJECT FUND	REPTR FUND	TOTAL FUNDS	NON-DED FUNDS
2023 Forward	616.00	2582.09	3170.58	-27.51
YTD Received	0.00	293.00	1344.81	1051.81
YTD Paid	0.00	0.00	764.89	764.89
YTD Funds	616.00	2875.09	3750.50	259.41

The next chart shows itemized details of the income (credit) and expenses (debit).

VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB ITEMIZED 2024								
PURPOSE	FNB IN	FNB OUT	PAYPAL IN	PAYPAL OUT	TOTAL IN	TOTAL OUT	DIFF
ARD=ARRL Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ARP=ARRL Publications	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CBG=Club Badge/Club Hat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DIN=Dinner or BBQ	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DM=Dues, Membership	152.00	0.00	454.00	32.82	606.00	32.82	573.18
ENT=Entertainment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FD=Field Day	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GU=Guest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INS = Insurance	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	-200.00
MB=Mail Box	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MI=Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MM=Mailings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MS=Meeting Snacks	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NB=Name Badge	0.00	49.40	49.40	49.40	49.40	98.80	-49.40
NL=Newsletter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
OS=Office Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PF=Prize Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PRJ=Project Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RP=Repeater	28.00	0.00	265.00	0.00	293.00	0.00	293.00
WP=Web Page	0.00	39.00	96.41	94.27	96.41	133.27	-36.86
PPT=PayPal Transfer to Chkng	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
PPA=Paypal Adjustment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	480.00	288.40	864.81	476.49	1344.81	764.89	579.92

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You can see most of our dues come in via PayPal and there is a cost in doing that, about 7%. I recently paid $200 to renew our club liability insurance through the ARRL.

There's some charges to get name badges made for some new members. I group these so that the shipping charges aren't as bad.

There are also payments to our web hosting provider, and the PPT column is used to show transfers from the PayPal account to our checking account.

Submitted,

Bryan, KBØA

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A Message from the Secretary

Unfortunately, as of the publishing deadline, I did not receive any message from the Secretary
Mike Rogers KN6MIO

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Meetings recorded by the Secretary

VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB MEETING
03/14/2024

I. Flag Salute

II. Bryan, KB0A, showed photo cataloging software.

III. 8th Annual Loomis Hamfest on coming Saturday.

IV. Wings over Solano will be the coming Saturday.

V. DX Convention in Visalia on 4/18.

VI. Pacificon is coming to San Ramon in October.

VII. Summer Field Day.
- **A. $121 per night for 6 sites.**

VIII. Presentation about Anderson Power Poles by Servando.

Adjourned at 8:37.

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June Field Day Is Coming!!!

This years Field Day is set for the weekend of Friday, June21st, through Sunday, June 23rd.

The location selected is – Brannan Island State Recreation Area.

This is the link to the Campground site:

Brannan Island State Recreational Area

This is the link to the site to make reservations:

https://reservecalifornia.com/Web/

This is a link to a survey the club is taking about field day:

Field Day Survey

More information about the event will be forthcoming in April's meeting.

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A Fast Congratulations To Wavetalkers!

I just want to say Congratulations! to the group at Wavetalkers on doing their 100th episode on March 24th.

The link to their youtube channel is:

https://www.youtube.com/@WaveTalkers

They are primarily involve with using winlink for emergency communications.

Their website is: https://wavetalkers.com/

They are always looking for people to help them with ideas for the show.

Way to go Guys and may you see another 100!

Stephen
KK6ZJC

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This is a last minute update for wavetalkers.

On March 31,2024 the wavetalkers Sunday show was about the Baltimore Bridge collapse.

This is the link to the show, and I highly recommend all of our club members watch this one paticular episode!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dGFU43J1bbc

This clarifies ICS100 so perfectly.

Stephen
KK6ZJC

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Let’s talk about the basics of the Incident Command System!

Earthquake!! Wild Fire!! Tsunami! Mud Slide! Floods!

Who responds to those types of emergencies?

The police?

The fire department?

The military?

The local government?

The state government?

The federal government?

YES! All those entities respond, but also volunteers willing to give up their time and assist in any ways they are capable. Even businesses assist with donations and manpower.

But before a single bit of aid can be rendered everyone has to know who is in charge, where the people in charge are located, who answers to whom, where information can be obtained, where responders and volunteers will be fed and housed, where people needing assistance will be placed, Etc.

The best way to do all that is with a pre planned idea of how things should be done.

This is where the Incident Command System comes into play

The Incident Command System is designed to be a fluid structure. Sections are added and removed as needed within an incident. The static sections of the Incident Command System are the Incident Commander(s), the Command Staff, and the General Staff sections

They are generally located AWAY from the immediate incident so they are not a part of the incident.

Continued on the next page.

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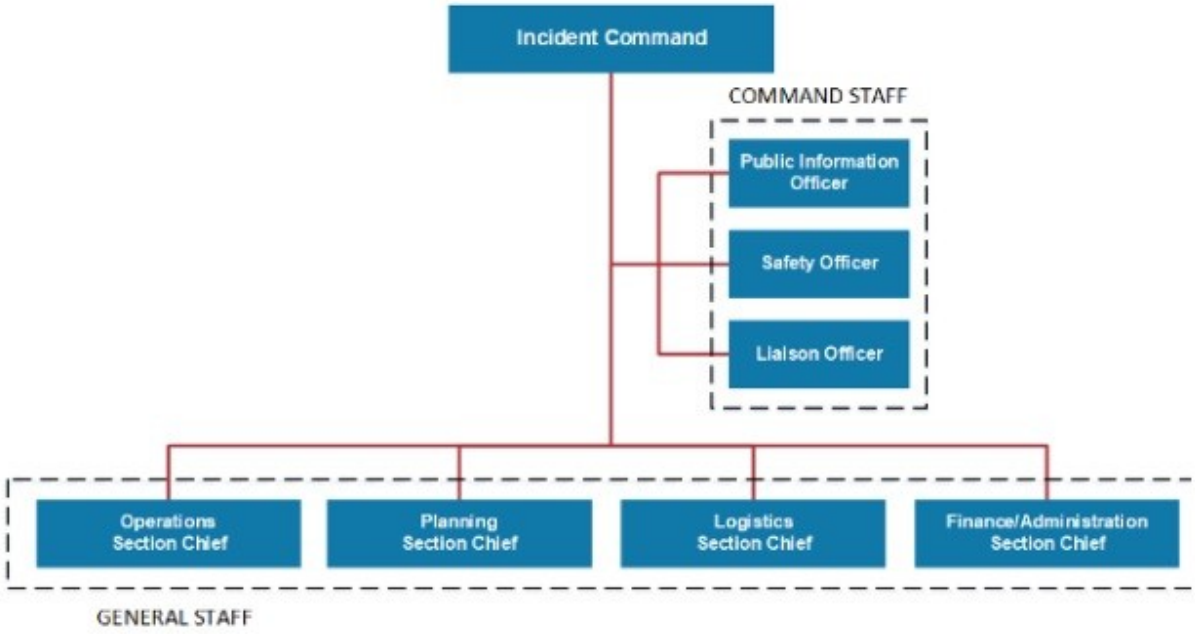

You start by having the people who are responsible for the incident, called the incident commander(s). keeping an overall view on the ENTIRE incident and making decisions about what should be done and when it should be done They are generally located AWAY from the immediate incident so they are not a part of the incident.

(Think of net control as being an incident commander. They control everything and are responsible for the overall running of the operations.)

The command staff are the “in between” people to the incident commander(s). They answer to the Incident commander(s) and communicate information from the incident Commander(s).

They are the public information officer, the safety officer and the liaison officer.

The public information officer is responsible for dissemination of information about the incident to the responsible parties, social media and news outlets.

The safety officer is responsible for ensuring that everyone stays safe, they are responsible to have information about dangers in the incident area , and the resources to ensure that safety is followed at all times.

The liaison officer is responsible for talking with various agencies about assistance and knowing what is available.

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Then you have different “branches” that assist with the actual assistance, and recovery effort.

These different branches are called the general staff.

You have the finance/administration section who are responsible for the bills and ensuring purchases are made as needed.

You have the logistics section who makes sure the resources to deal with the emergency are there at the right time and available.

There is the planning section who makes sure that things are planned for in advance and what should be done where.

Then you have the actual boots on the ground so to speak of the operations section.
This is the section that does the real work during an emergency by cleaning things, doing searches if needed, communicating what is needed where, what conditions are like etc.

All of these different sections work together to recover from an incident.

Now that we have a bit of information about the structure of the incident command system, lets look at where it came from……

The incident command system got its start as a result of several emergencies back in the 1970’s where things did not go smoothly. Agencies were doing their own thing, efforts were duplicated or not done by any agency. There was a lack of communications between groups doing the actual work.

As a result efforts were wasted, doing the same task by different agencies, or not having critical task done at all.

After all was finished and the aftermath was looked at by the agencies involved, everyone agreed that they needed a structured organization to deal with future emergencies.

The incident command system is just one part of an overall plan both by local officials, county officials, state officials, and federal officials. That plan is known as the National Response Plan.

For our purposes, we are only focusing on the incident command system.

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Every day the plan is updated as different parts of the incident are dealt with.

As plans are made and updated the forms used are updated and changed.

One of the forms you know of is the ICS-213 message form.

There are many other forms though, dealing with everything from people to medical needs.

The entire book of forms is available online from the federal government at:

NIMS ICS Forms

Once the majority of the incident is over and dealt with, then people are released back to their own agencies as they are no longer needed.

Can ICS be used for things other than emergencies? It sure can!

You can use it to plan any activity from a bike race to the Superbowl and or Olympics using ICS.

I used it to plan my field day activities in 2023. It is a great organizational tool.

The entire ICS-100 course takes about 6-8 hours to learn in a classroom setting, not including the test you take at the end to get the certificate. The F.E.M.A. website says it oly takes 2 hours but that is only if you are doing the course solo and online. In a classroom setting you can expect to take much longer because of doing exercises and discussions.

The course can also be slowed down or sped up as needed but generally 8 hours is generally a good average for learning it.

You can go to the F.E.M.A. website to download the materials to learn it. The link is

https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-100.c&lang=en

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If anyone is interested I would be open to the idea of doing a zoom online training class in April one weekend

Read up on it and study it, then see if you can’t find a use for it aside from an emergency.

That is all for now though.

Stephen
KK6ZJC

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Anatomy of a WinLink Packet Gateway

Bob Hawkins, KM6BXZ

VVRC Club Member

Solano ACS Radio Officer

It's been great seeing VVRC member interest in the WinLink Global Radio Email system grow and develop over the last year. One of the easiest ways to gain access to email over the radio is by using VHF packet. VHF packet is available to anyone with a technician license, and as Frank (W6GP) demonstrated last year, and Fred (W1FRD) demonstrated at our February meeting, there are multiple gadgets that will allow you to use your existing VHF radios to access a gateway running VHF packet.

What is a gateway anyway? WinLink operates a mail service by hosting radio connected access points that connect through the internet to servers on the Amazon Cloud. There are over 1,100 packet gateways across the world, with just under 1,000 of those packet gateways located within the USA. Emails are sent by radio to a gateway, which will receive your email and forward that email through an internet connection to the WinLink servers, which in turn forward the email to the recipient. The connection also works in reverse by downloading any email you may have sitting in your WinLink account and sending that back to you over the radio.

The Solano Auxiliary Communications Service (Solano ACS) maintains a packet gateway at the Solano County Emergency Operations Center in Fairfield. Solano ACS is a group of amateur radio operators that volunteer with the Solano County Office of Emergency Services, with a primary mission of supporting emergency communication needs during disasters. WinLink is a part of the backup emergency communication plan. We operate the packet gateway 24/7, and it is open to all amateur radio operators. The gateway callsign is K6SOL-10, operating on 145.730 MHz.

You need approval from the WinLink system operators to host a gateway, but once you have approval, a packet gateway is simple to setup and operate. All it takes is a radio, a Packet Terminal Node Controller, and a computer connected to the internet. Here is what our gateway looks like:

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Radio

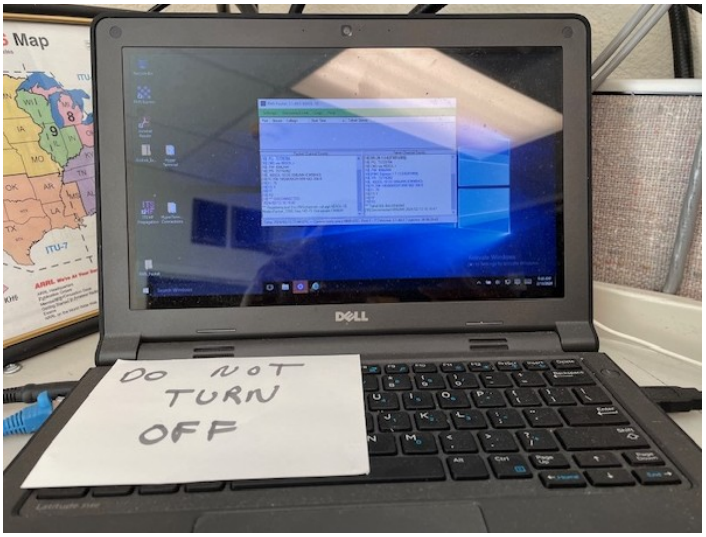
We use a "retired" Motorola Radius GM-300 public safety radio that continuously monitors our packet frequency. It is connected to a Diamond V2000 triband antenna that we share with our 6 meter radio (the signal is split with a duplexer). When your radio connects to our gateway, this is the radio that you connect through. You'll notice the "DO NOT CHANGE" label taped to the radio. When you have multiple operators using a radio room it's good to have reminders that some things should be left alone!

Terminal Node Controller (TNC)

When you operate in Packet mode, you need a way to translate the "packets" for your computer to process. We use a Kantronics KPC3+ as the interface between the radio and the computer. Kantronics has a long history of supplying TNC's and they are the backbone of many packet systems. It is the TNC that monitors the traffic on the frequency and responds when it hears the traffic for K6SOL-10.

Computer with internet connection

We use a "retired" Dell laptop that has the sole purpose of running "Radio Mail Server Packet (RMS Packet)" software. It is on all the time, and that is the only thing it does. The RMS Packet software receives the packet traffic from the TNC and forwards the messages to the WinLink Servers through the internet. The software will also download any messages you may have in your WinLink account and send them to you over the radio. The computer has a wired ethernet connection to a Comcast business modem. Again, the computer needs to stay on, so "DO NOT TURN OFF"!



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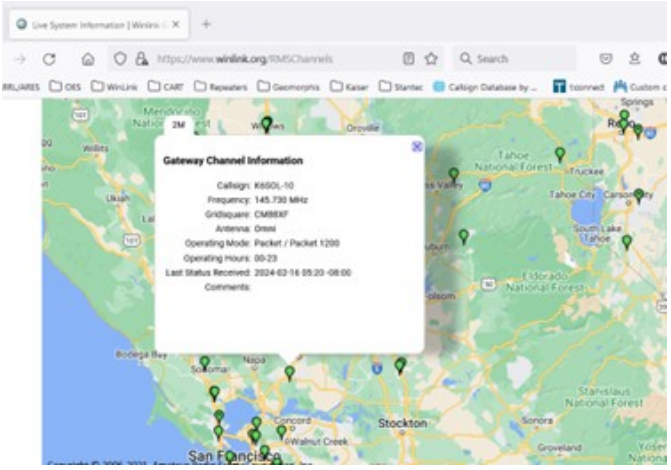
MTVNOD on Mt. Vaca

Solano ACS also runs a Digipeater on Mt. Vaca, which as the name suggests, “repeats”. Any packet signals it hears on our packet frequency of 145.730 MHz. If you can’t reach K6SOL-10 directly, but you can reach Mt. Vaca, you can send your WinLink packet traffic “via” the MTVNOD digipeater to K6SOL-10. The digipeater greatly expands access into the gateway due to the wide geographic area that a station on Mt. Vaca covers.

System Operation



The gateway has been very reliable since we put it in service in 2019. As you would guess, the few times it has been inoperable were related to components being inadvertently turned off. As a system operator, or Sysop, I can check the status of the station using the Live System Information tool on the WinLink web page (https://www.winlink.org/RMSChannels).
I also check the Sysop’s Message Monitor page to monitor the traffic through the gateway to ensure that no one is sending “forbidden content” through the system. This is amateur radio after all, and the FCC content rules apply here.

All of this activity goes on behind the scenes to WinLink users, and fortunately WinLink Express automates all the packet commands for you when you open a packet session.

I’d encourage you to give WinLink a try.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions, and if you want to learn more about Solano ACS check our webpage here,

https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/oes/volunteer/acs.asp

or give me a call (I am listed in the club roster).

73!

Thanks Bob for a great article!

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The Learning Corner

This months learning corner is about coaxial cable!

Coaxial cable are not as simple as one would believe. Sure they are a shielded unbalanced cable that we attach to both our antennas and our radios but they are so much more.

They are designed for different frequencies, impedance, and uses.

And sometimes you can use a different one if you are willing to put up with a slight mismatch.

There are several manufacturers of Coaxial cable out there. Belden, Times Microwave, Pasternak, Commscope, and others. Way too many to list. Although below this article is a list of a few of them.

The most common coaxial cable used with HF frequencies is RG-8/U. This is a coaxial cable with a diameter of about 1/2 inch. It offers extremely good losses up to about 30 MHz. Beyond that the attenuation of the cable climbs sharply.

There is a thin flexible version of RG-8/U called RG-8X. It is just about the same diameter as RG-6 coaxial cable for tv. It specifications vary slightly from RG-8U

For frequencies higher than HF, there are the LMR series of coaxial cables, LMR240, LMR400, and LMR600.

Most amateur radio operators use LMR400 since it works well up to the 500 MHz range with low losses. That is not to say you don’t have any loss but they are acceptable.

If you have the money try to go with LMR400 for all your cable runs. Even for hf. The expense may be well worth it!

The LMR400 series are all 1/2 inch type coaxial cables.

For work in the upper UHF and GHz range you start to think about helix cable.

Heliax cable is a special cable with a hard outer shell around the dielectric. It generally requires special connectors and is very expensive. 25 feet of it will cost about $200.

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Other types of coax serve different purposes. RG-6 is generally used for cable tv system house runs. RG-11 is a 75 ohm feeder cable used for cable TV systems as a backbone.

Believe it or not, if you are willing to accept a bit of loss then you can use RG-6 or RG-11 as your coax. And the reason I say loss results from both RG-6 and RG-11 being 75 ohm cables. Close enough to use but will give you a mismatch loss.

For portable use you can make several cable lengths so you have assorted lengths without having to cut the cable. Standard lengths are 25 feet, 50 feet, 75 feet and 100 feet.

For use around your stationary shack you can terminate one end to the antenna and once you run the coax , you can terminate the other end leaving a few feet in case.

And because the shield is right against the outside of the cable by looping them around a piece of PVC Pipe, you can turn them into a balun which will choke the reflected rf energy from your antenna so it doesn't reach your shack.

You can even use coaxial cable as a stub to make a band filter.

Whenever you connect your coax to your antenna always leave a bit of cable coiled up in a loop if possible. In the future, when you need to replace that corroded PL259, N or BNC connector you will have some at the antenna so you don't need to come all the way off your tower to fix it. Plus if you interweave it as you coil it you make an ugly balun to act as a choke for RF.

The internet has some articles and information about coax cables. Unfortunately a lot of it is geared towards cable TV and cell coax cable unless you are very specific with your search terms.

One additional thing to mention is velocity factor. Velocity factor is the speed that the signal travels through your coaxial cable. That speed can vary between 60 and 90 percent.

The best thing you can do is research the cable you want to use and find out the specifications.

Below is a small list of coaxial manufacturers where you can obtain information about their coax cables

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Alpha {Coaxial RG6U, 8U, 11U, 55U- Plenum RG11U, 58U, 59B/C/U}

Amphenol {Flat Coax Cable}

Belden {Coaxial, Twinaxial, Triaxial Cable Manufacturer}

Canare {75 ohm Coax Manufacturer}

Coleman Cable {RG 6U, 8U, 11U, 58U, 59U, 62U, 174U, 213U, 214U, 223U-Others}

CommScope

Consolidated Electronic Wire & Cable

Daburn

Delco Wire and Cable Lt. {Coaxial-MIL-C-17-Twinaxial-CATV/MATV Cable Manufacturer}

General Cable {RG 6U, 8U, 11U, 58U, 59U, 62U, 174U, 213U wire Manufacturer}

Harbour Industries {MIL-C-17 Coax Cable Manufacturer}

EZ Form Cable Corp. {Miniature SemiRigid Coax/MIL-C-17}

Micro-Coax {Flexible-SemiRigid-Coax Cable Manufacturer}

Tyco {Coaxial-Twinaxial Cable}

SRC Cables Inc. {RG58, 59, 142, 174, 178, 179, 213, 214, 223, 316}

Storm Inc. {Flexible-SemiRigid-Coax Manufacturer}

Times Microwave Systems

WEICO Wire & Cable, Inc {Coax Cable}

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Recurring Club Meetings and Events

This is a listing all events of the club that repeat monthly

The club net is on April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, at 2000 hours using the W6VVR Repeater

The club meeting is April 11th at 1900 hours using the Vacaville Nut Tree Airport Meeting Room

The club Cow Town casual QSO is on April 4, 11, 18, and 25 at 1030 hours on the W6VVR Repeater.

Saturday April 13th at 1900 hours KK6ZJC will be using zoom to practice passing messages.

KK6ZJC can be reached by email at coffeeholic1a@yahoo.com. Please put ECOMM TRAINING ENQUIRY in the subject

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Special Club Meetings and Events

I am listing all special events the club is looking for volunteers to assist in as well as fox hunts or events out of the ordinary.

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Contest for April

Below is link to a great contesting website by fellow Amateur Radio Operator Bruce Horn, WA7BNM

https://contestcalendar.com/

The calendar list contest in multiple ways.

It is easy to use and regularly updated.

Hope that it helps you with your contesting!

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Congratulations To The Following New Club Members

These are the new club members for this year! Lets give them a big Hello and welcome to the club!

KO6ABL William Sonnenburg Fairfield Tech 1/12/24
KO6CSM Mark Fitzgerald Fairfield General 1/13/24
KO6BVU Kairi Raty Fairfield Tech 2/7/24
KI6EWC Megan Raty Fairfield Tech 2/7/24
KG6MDW Trevor Raty Fairfield Extra 2/8/24
KM6PNG James McLaughlin Vacaville General 2/12/24
KO6CZQ Tom Riley Vacaville Tech 3/3/24
KI5LMK William Pugh Vacaville Tech 3/11/24
KN6IWB Alex Gehlert Vacaville General 3/19/24

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Our Condolences To The Family of this Silent Key

Jim Blaine, N7XV, Smartsville, CA

You will be missed in the Amateur Community.

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The Club Repeater(s)

The Vaca Valley Radio Club sponsors repeaters on several bands.
The club provides some financial support, but the owners provide a substantial portion of the cost of their operation.
The efforts of the owners are greatly appreciated.

The main repeater for the club is:

Call Sign: W6VVR
Output Frequency: 145.470MHz
Input Frequency: 144.870MHz
CTCSS tone (P.L.): 127.3Hz
Offset Frequency: 600KHz
Offset Direction: Minus

Vaca Valley Radio Club Sponsored Repeaters
As Of November 1, 2023

Rptr Out	Offset	P.L.	Call/ Location	Linked Repeaters
145.470	Minus 600 KHz	127.3	W6VVR Mt Vaca	Linked to 441.650 MHz
440.025	Plus 5 MHz	127.3	WV6F Mt Vaca	
441.650	Plus 5 MHz	100.0	N6VLF Fairfield	Linked to 145.470 MHz
145.140	Minus 600 KHz	77.0 DG-ID 00-00	Moderate level	Can operate Yaesu Fusion AMS Can be linked to 145.470 MHz or 441.650 MHz

Visitors are welcome to use the repeaters.

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EchoLink and AllStar Nodes

The Vaca Valley Radio Club operates both an EchoLink and an Allstar Nodes that link to the clubs main repeater on 145.470 MHz on top of Mt Vaca.

NOTE: EchoLink is UP, Allstar node is UP.

Call Sign: W6VVR

EchoLink Node 454312 W6VVR-R

Allstar Node 51094

Visitors are welcome to use the nodes.

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2024 Officers:

President:	Servando Miramontes	K6SRV
Vice President:	Dan Martin	N6ETR
Treasurer:	Brian Steinberg	KB0A
Secretary:	Mike Rodgers	KN6MIO

2024 Board of Directors:

Art Aronsen	WD6BQX
Chris Swanson	KJ6DLF
Mike Gregory	WB6WYF
Will Shaffer	W6SRX

Net Control Operators

1st Week Of The Month	Bob Hawkins	KM6BXZ
2nd Week Of The Month	Chris Swanson	KJ6DLF
3rd Week Of The Month	Frank Garay	KJ6RWQ
4th Week Of The Month	Dan Martin	N6ETR
5th Week Of The Month	Dan Martin	N6ETR

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VOLUNTEER POSITIONS:

Membership	Bryan Steinberg	KB0A
Repeater Trustee	Brian Hagen	KK6BXP
Repeater Committee Chair	Brian Hagen	KK6BXP
Newsletter Editor	Stephen Bartels	KK6ZJC
Webmaster	Bryan Steinberg	KB0A
Net Control Coordinator (Filled by the Vice President as per the Club Constitution)	Dan Martin	N6ETR
Activities Committee Chair	Don Preston	KM6INR
Monthly Message Passing Practice Net	Stephen Bartels	KK6ZJC
Foxhunt Coordinator		
Bicycle Events Coordinator		
Parade Events Coordinator		
Winter Field Day Committee		
Dixon Mayfair Parade		
June Field Day Committee		
Merriment on Main		
December Meeting		

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Volunteer Positions (Continued)

Winlink Committee Chair

FL-Digi Committee Chair

Arden Committee Chair

We still have numerous committees that need chairpersons and volunteers for the upcoming year (2024). (See the list above.) They need to be filled for the upcoming year by younger volunteers and those with experience to guide the club forward into the future.

This is your club. You can make it a great club by participating in meetings, events, and nets, or you can watch the club wither away and die from lack of participation by ALL members.

It is in your hands, are you going to watch the club end or are you going to jump in and help steer the club forward to the future?

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Vaca Valley Radio Club, Inc

Membership Application/Renewal Form

November 2019 Dues are payable annually.

New Members Please Fill in All Fields Completely
Renewing Members Please Provide Name and Call Sign, Other Fields *Only if there are changes*

Member Information

FCC Name:_____

Street:_____

Street 2:_____

City:_____

State:_____ Zip-Code+4:_____

Home Phone:_____

Cell Phone:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Payment Information

Member Dues: $25.00 _____

Additional Family Members: $2.00 _____

Student: $5.00 _____

Repeater Donation: _____

Total:_____$_____

Paid by Check: $_____

Check number: _____

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Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

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Directions To the Monthly Meeting from Fairfield, Suisun City And Other Areas West of Vacaville

Coming from Fairfield: Take Highway 80 East Bound. Take exit 55 Nut Tree Parkway / Allison Drive. Stay to the left and enter the right left turn lane

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Turn left from the right turn lane and stay in the right lane. Be careful not to get back on the highway entrance.

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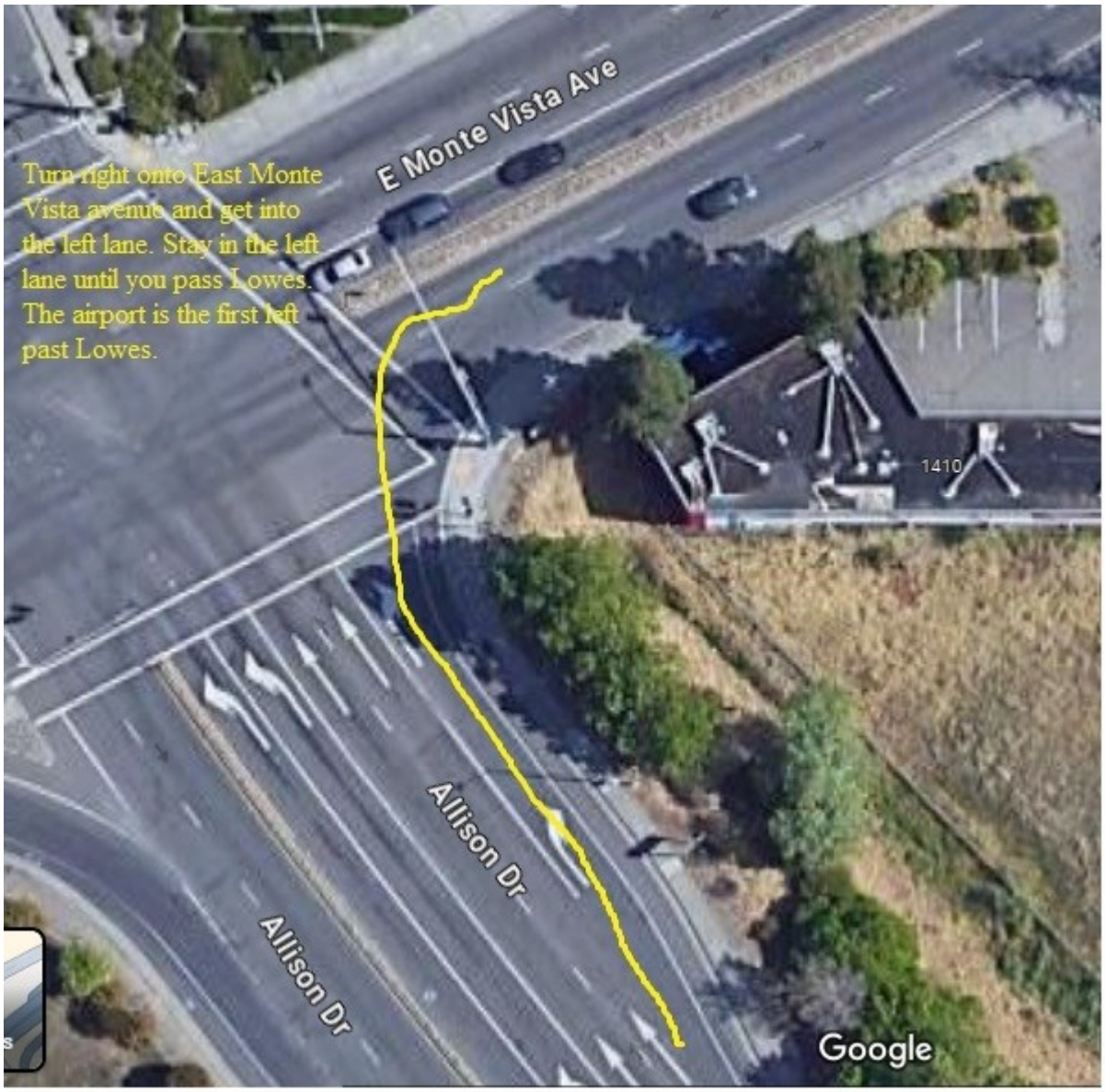
Go over the overpass and make the right turn onto East Monte Vista Avenue.



Get in the left lane of E Monte Vista Avenue and drive East until you pass Lowes.

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The airport is immediately past the Lowes Parking lot.

Turn left and drive to the airport parking lot on your right.

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Directions To The Monthly Meeting From Dixon, Sacramento And Other Areas East of Vacaville

Coming West from Dixon take the E Monte Vista Avenue exit, (exit 55)

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Take the Right turn Lane at the exit

Stay in the right lane until the light.
At the light turn Right and get into the left lane.

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Get into the left lane and drive East until you see Lowes.
The airport is immediately past the Lowes parking lot

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Turn left and drive to the airport parking lot on your right.

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